

May 1, 2020

The Honorable Ron DeSantis
Governor, State of Florida
The Capitol
400 South Monroe Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0001

Dear Governor DeSantis:

On behalf of Florida's 67 counties and 412 cities, the Florida League of Cities (FLC) and the Florida Association of Counties (FAC) want to again thank you for your leadership during this historical time. Our two organizations greatly appreciate the flexibility and authority you have given local governments to deal locally with the issues that are most affecting their neighborhoods and business communities. Furthermore, we look forward to working with you diligently to continue to address not only the continuing health crisis but the strategic maintenance and revival of our state economy through the development and implementation of state and local economic relief and sustainability efforts.

Securing resources for moving all of Florida forward

Florida's allocation for specific state and local government expenses, as well as economic relief and sustainability efforts, from the CARES Act was approximately \$8.328 billion. The federal legislation provided that of this amount, 55% was reserved for the state and 45% of the allocation was reserved for direct payments to eligible local government jurisdictions (that exceed 500,000 in population).

Total Florida Allocation		\$8,328,221,072
Reserved for State	55%	\$4,580,521,590
Reserved for Local Governments	45%	\$3,747,699,482

Based on the federal legislative formula determining the sub-allocation of the reserved "local allocation," eligible Florida local governments (500,000+) would be able to receive approximately \$2.472 billion in direct federal assistance. **However, this sum is approximately \$1.275 billion less than the total allocation reserved for eligible Florida local governments of \$3.747 billion.**

The Florida Association of Counties and the Florida League of Cities respectfully request that this \$1.275 billion be earmarked to provide necessary resources to local governments that were not direct beneficiaries of CARES Act dollars.

Funding distribution for eligible local governments

FAC and FLC jointly propose that all municipal and county governments that did not receive direct or indirect funding as a result of the CARES Act are deemed "eligible" local governments to receive distribution from the total requested allocation of \$1.275 billion. The distribution methodology, similar to the federal formula, would utilize each eligible jurisdiction's total population as a share of the total state population to create a factor that would be applied to the total dedicated allocation.

Example:

- A) $(\text{Jurisdiction Population} / \text{Total State Population}) = \text{Allocation Factor}$
- B) $\text{Allocation Factor} * \text{Total Dedicated Allocation} = \text{Jurisdiction Distribution}$
 - a. $100/1000 = .10$ or 10%
 - b. $10\% * \$1,000,000 = \$100,000$

Under this distribution, a summary distribution of the dedicated allocation would be as follows:

A) Florida's Cities would receive an approximate sum of:	\$590,154,219.95
B) Florida's Counties would receive an approximate sum of:	\$430,726,697.19
C) Remaining unspent funds to held for "Contingency Purposes":	\$254,404,872.99
D) Total Local Government Allocation:	\$1,275,285,790.12

The identified contingency funds could be made available to "eligible" local governments that have incurred expenses that are greater than their jurisdiction distribution, **or a number of other eligible uses that would also address your administration's mitigation and recovery priorities at the local level.**

Our organizations recognize that as Governor, you are working to move Florida forward beyond this crisis. We look forward to working with you in protecting the health and safety of our local citizens ***and taking the necessary actions to ensure the strength of our local economies.*** We greatly appreciate your consideration of this important matter and we look forward to working with you to address the concerns of the 466 local government bodies that did not receive funding from the CARES Act.

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact Scott Dudley at sdudley@flcities.com and Davin Suggs at dsuggs@fl-counties.com .

If we can assist you in any way as we begin to try to open up the state for business, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Virginia "Ginger" Delegal



FAC Executive Director



Michael Sittig



FLC Executive Director

